## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

CANDIS JOHNSON, : Case No.:

10002 Dunlap Ave

Cleveland, OH 44105 : COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, : Jury Demand Endorsed Hereon.

vs. :

TRUEACCORD CORP.,

a foreign corporation

c/o Incorp Services, Inc.

9435 Waterstone Boulevard Suite 140

Cincinnati, OH 45249

:

Defendant.

# NOW COMES THE PLAINTIFF, CANDIS JOHNSON, BY AND THROUGH COUNSEL,

**RICHARD P. GABELMAN**, and for her Complaint against the Defendants, pleads as follows:

### **JURISDICTION**

 This court has jurisdiction under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA"), 15 U.S.C. §1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. §§1331,1337.

### **VENUE**

2. Venue is proper in the Northern District of Ohio as the Defendant conducts business in the entire State of Ohio.

#### **PARTIES**

- 3. Candis Johnson is an individual residing in Cleveland, Ohio in Cuyahoga County.
- 4. TrueAccord Corp. is a foreign corporation that conducts business in the State of Ohio.

## **GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 5. Defendant is attempting to collect a consumer type debt allegedly owed by Plaintiff to LVNV Funding, LLC ("LVNV") in the amount of \$683.00 ("the alleged Debt").
- 6. Defendant is a debt collection agency collecting the alleged Debt on behalf of LVNV.
- 7. On or about May 20, 2020, Defendant sent Plaintiff an email attempting to collect the alleged Debt. The email contained a notice that Plaintiff has 30 days to dispute the validity of the alleged Debt.
- 8. On May 24, 2020, Defendant sent Plaintiff another email attempting to collect the alleged Debt.
- 9. On May 27, 2020, Defendant sent Plaintiff another email attempting to collect the alleged Debt.
- 10. On or about June 2, 2020, Plaintiff emailed Defendant a request for validation of the alleged Debt. Plaintiff also sent a validation request letter via certified mail.
- 11. After receiving Plaintiff's request for validation, Defendant did not validate the alleged Debt, nor did Defendant cease its collection efforts.
- 12. Since June 2, 2020, Defendant has emailed Plaintiff several times a week attempting to collect the alleged Debt. Plaintiff has notified Defendant several times through email, written correspondence and their website that she disputes the alleged Debt.
- 13. On November 4, 2020, Defendant sent Plaintiff an email stating that her account is scheduled to be recalled since no payment has been made.
- 14. After receiving Plaintiff's two requests for validation, Defendant failed or refused to validate the Debt or cease its collection efforts, in violation of the FDCPA.
- 15. Plaintiff suffered pecuniary and emotional damages as a result of Defendant's actions.

#### VIOLATION OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

- 16. Plaintiff reincorporates the preceding allegations by reference.
- 17. At all relevant times, Defendant, in the ordinary course of its business, regularly engaged in the practice of collecting debts on behalf of other individuals or entities.
- 18. Plaintiff is a "consumer" for purposes of the FDCPA, and the account at issue in this case is a consumer debt.
- 19. Defendant is a "debt collector" under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("FDCPA"), 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6).
- 20. Defendant's foregoing acts in attempting to collect this alleged debt violated the following provisions of the FDCPA:
  - a. 15 U.S.C. §1692e by using deceptive practices to collect a debt by continuing to collect the alleged Debt without validating the alleged Debt.
  - b. 15 U.S.C. §1692g by continuing to collect the alleged Debt without validating the alleged
    Debt.
- 21. To date, and a direct and proximate cause of the Defendant's failure to honor its statutory obligations under the FDCPA, the Plaintiff has continued to suffer from stress and irritation.
- 22. Plaintiff has suffered economic, emotional, general, and statutory damages as a result of these violations of the FDCPA.

WHEREFORE, PLAINTIFF PRAYS that this court grant her a judgment against Defendant for actual damages, costs, interest, and attorneys' fees.

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**PRAYER FOR RELIEF** 

Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant for Actual Damages; Statutory Damages; Damages for pecuniary, economic and emotional damages and loss; Attorney's Fees and the

costs of this action.

**JURY DEMAND** 

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by Jury.

Dated: March 19, 2021 Respectfully submitted,

/s/Richard P. Gabelman Richard P. Gabelman, Esq. (#0074642) 6071 Montgomery Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45213 (513) 321-7733 Email: gabelmanrich@hotmail.com

Attorney for Plaintiff